

C. REMARKS

Claims:

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claim 17 was previously withdrawn from consideration, but has been rejoined. Claims 3-5, and 11-13 have been allowed; and the remaining claims rejected. Applicants note with appreciation Examiner Garrett's allowance of claims 3-5, and 11-13, and the helpful suggestions for alternative claim language to overcome the rejections of claims 1, 2, 6-10, and 14-18. Applicants have adopted the Examiner's suggestions, have revised claims 1, 6, 7, 17, and 18 accordingly, and have canceled dependent claim 2. No new matter is presented by the proposed amendments, and applicants believe the amendments place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, and reconsideration of claims 1, and 3-18 in light of the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action has indicated that claims 3-5, 11-13 and 18 are allowed. Applicants note with appreciation the examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

The 35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 8-10, and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs.¹ The Examiner has suggested claim language to describe the variable "n" in the claims, and to recite certain substituents for the R groupings. Applicants have adopted the suggested claim language. Applicants respectfully request entry of the

¹ In the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, the Examiner also rejected claim 18. This claim has been revised as suggested in the Office Action.

amendments, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to pending claims 1, 6-10 and 14-16.

CONCLUSION

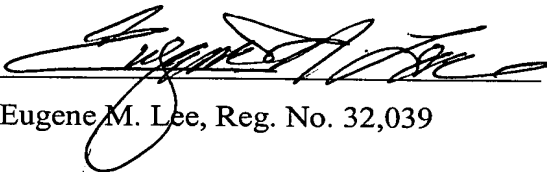
Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments. If the Examiner believes that additional discussions or information might advance the prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below to expedite resolution of any outstanding issues.

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, and 3-18 are now in condition for allowance, and favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

LEE & STERBA, P.C.

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**PETITION and
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CHARGE AUTHORIZATION**

This document and any concurrently filed papers are believed to be timely. Should any extension of the term be required, applicant hereby petitions the Director for such extension and requests that any applicable petition fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

If fee payment is enclosed, this amount is believed to be correct. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

Any additional fee(s) necessary to effect the proper and timely filing of the accompanying papers may also be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.